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1988/03/18

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PAGE 01 STATE 085772
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E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, OPRC, CH
SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE: PRC TRANSFER OF IRBM'S TO
SAUDI ARABIA

1. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED AND USED IN CONNECTION WITH THE 03/18/88 WASHINGTON TIMES AND WASHINGTON POST ARTICLES CONCERNING THE TRANSFER OF CHINESE IRBM'S TO SAUDI ARABIA.
2. Q: WAS THE CHINESE SALE OF IRBM'S TO SAUDI ARABIA RAISED DURING FOREIGN MINISTER WU'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON?
3. A: SECRETARY SHULTZ RAISED THE PRC'S TRANSFER OF IRBM'S TO SAUDI ARABIA WITH FOREIGN MINISTER WU XUEQIAN DURING HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON. FOREIGN MINISTER WU REPLIED THAT CHINA WILL NOT EXPORT NUCLEAR WEAPONS TO ANY COUNTRY. WE HAVE SINCE RAISED THIS ISSUE WITH OTHER CHINESE OFFICIALS AND THEY HAVE REPEATED THESE ASSURANCES.
4. Q: WHAT IS THE US REACTION TO THE PRC'S ROLE IN THE TRANSFER OF IRBM'S TO SAUDI ARABIA?
5. A: THE UNITED STATES HAS WORKED CONSISTENTLY TO PREVENT THE PROLIFERATION OF BALLISTIC MISSILE SYSTEMS. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS WE HAVE RAISED WITH CHINA OUR DESIRE TO CONTROL PROLIFERATION OF MISSILE TECHNOLOGIES OF THIS SORT. WE REMAIN GREATLY CONCERNED WITH THE IMPLICATIONS FOR PEACE AND STABILITY INHERENT IN THE INTRODUCTION OF THIS WEAPONS SYSTEMS INTO THE MIDDLE EAST. WE WILL CONTINUE TO BE IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE PRC GOVERNMENT ON THIS MATTER.
SHULTZ

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